

Australian Bureau of Statistics

1270.0.55.003 - Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2016

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 13/09/2016

Summary

Local Government Areas (LGA)

This document was added or updated on 08/11/2018.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGA)

The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Local Government Areas (LGAs) are an ABS approximation of officially gazetted Local Government Areas as defined by each State and Territory Local Government Department. The 2016 ASGS edition of Local Government Areas takes into account the August 2016 PSMA Australia edition of the Administrative Boundaries. This includes the nineteen new, New South Wales councils, announced on the 12 May 2016 at https://www.strongercouncils.nsw.gov.au/.

Local Government Areas cover incorporated areas of Australia only. Incorporated areas are legally designated parts of a State or Territory over which incorporated local governing bodies have responsibility. The major areas of Australia not administered by incorporated bodies are the northern parts of South Australia, and all of the Australian Capital Territory and the Other Territories. These regions are identified as 'Unincorporated' in the ASGS Local Government Areas structure.

More information on local governments can be found at the Australian Local Government Association. **METHODOLOGY**

Within the ASGS, the boundaries produced for Local Government Areas are constructed from allocations of whole Mesh Blocks. The ABS will review the Local Government Areas annually and any changes will be applied by the inclusion or exclusion of whole Mesh Blocks.

For the 2016 ASGS edition, there are 563 ABS defined Local Government Areas, including Unincorporated areas.

UPDATED MESH BLOCK ALLOCATION. OCTOBER 2018

In October 2018 the allocation of two Mesh Blocks to 2016 Local Government Areas were updated to rectify past misallocation that was caused by gaps in information provided to the ABS about Local Government Area changes. This impacted four Local Government Areas in two states:

- In Qld, Mesh Block 30564064500 was reallocated from Cook (S) to Hope Vale (S). The 2016 Census population of this Mesh Block is 53 people. The updated allocation increases the Hope Vale (S) Census population to 971 (an increase of 5.8%). It decreases the Census population of Cook (S) to 4,173 (a decrease of 1.3%).
- In NSW, Mesh Block 10183030000 was reallocated from Canterbury-Bankstown (A) to Georges River (A). The 2016 Census population of this Mesh Block is 124 people. The updated allocation increases the Georges River (A) Census population to 146,965 (an increase of 0.08%). It decreases the Census population of Canterbury-Bankstown (A) to 346,178 (a decrease of 0.04%).

The downloads tab of this publication now includes updated:

- Digital Boundary files in various formats
- Mesh Block to LGA allocation table
- Geographic correspondence file

The ABS is updating key datasets that are impacted by this change in the allocation of the two Mesh Blocks.

• Updated Census of Population and Housing data will be available through Census QuickStats. For the LGA of Hope Vale (S) users can access Census Community Profiles data using the Hope Vale, Indigenous Area, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Community Profile. This Indigenous Area has the same geographic boundary as the updated

Hope Vale (S) LGA. Census TableBuilder users can access Census data on the latest 2018 LGA boundaries using the TableBuilder recode files available in the ASGS Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2018 publication.

- **Updated Estimated Resident Population** data was released in August 2018 in Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2016. This includes revised populations for the updated 2016 Local Government Areas included in this publication.
- Updated Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians were released in August 2018 in Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Australians, June 2016.
- Data by Region provides a summary of different datasets by individual regions for all of Australia, including by Local Government Areas. Data by Region is being updated incrementally, with a full update scheduled in early to mid 2019. For the impacted Local Government Areas users are encouraged to access required data from the source, prior to this full update.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA NAMES

Local Government Area names are abbreviated in this structure. A suffix also indicates the Local Government Area status. Examples of these include:

- City of Albury: Albury (C)
- District Council of Copper Coast: Copper Coast (DC)

Where the same Local Government Area name appears in different States or Territories, the State or Territory abbreviation appears in parenthesis after the name. Local Government Area names are therefore unique.

In all States and the Northern Territory each incorporated area has an official status. In this ASGS edition, the various Local Government Area status types include:

- New South Wales: Cities (C) and Areas (A)
- Victoria: Cities (C), Rural Cities (RC), Boroughs (B) and Shires (S)
- Queensland: Cities (C), Shires (S), Towns (T) and Regional Councils (R)
- South Australia: Cities (C), Rural Cities (RC), Municipalities/Municipal Councils (M), District Councils (DC), Regional Councils (RegC), Towns (T) and Aboriginal Councils (AC)
- Western Australia: Cities (C), Towns (T) and Shires (S)
- Tasmania: Cities (C) and Municipalities (M)
- Northern Territory: Cities (C), Towns (T), Municipalities (M) and Shires (S).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CODING STRUCTURE

Local Government Areas are identified by four digit codes. Codes are unique only within a State or Territory. For unique Australia-wide Local Government Area code identification, the four digit code must be preceded by the State or Territory code. All Local Government Area codes end with the digit 0.

The codes used for the 2016 Local Government Areas may not match those used for past versions in some instances. Changes to codes occur where a Local Government Area is abolished or has changed significantly. The previous code will be retired and the replacement Local Government Area will be given a new code. A geographic correspondences file enabling the translation of data from 2011 to 2016 LGAs is available in the downloads tab of this publication.

Non-spatial special purpose codes are included as balancing items. Mesh Blocks allocated to these codes are not part of Local Government Area.

- LGA code 9799 is reserved for cases where people are coded to Migratory, Off-shore and Shipping Mesh Blocks.
- LGA code 9499 is reserved for cases where people are coded to No usual address Mesh Blocks.

Example:

State Name State Code		Local Government Area Code	Local Government Area Name	
Queensland	3	31000	Brisbane (C)	

Queensland	3	31750	Bulloo (S)
Queensland	3	31820	Bundaberg (R)
Queensland	3	31900	Burdekin (S)
Queensland	3	32080	Cairns (R)
Queensland	3	32250	Carpentaria (S)
Queensland	3	32260	Cassowary Coast
-			(R)
Queensland	3	39799	Migratory -
-			Offshore -
			Shipping (Qld)
Queensland	3	39499	No usual address
-			(Qld)
			· · · ·

Overview

OVERVIEW

The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) brings together in one framework all of the regions which the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and many other organisations use to collect, release and analyse geographically classified statistics. The ASGS ensures that these statistics are comparable and geospatially integrated and provides users with a coherent set of standard regions so that they can access, visualise, analyse and understand statistics. The 2016 ASGS will be used for the 2016 Census of Population and Housing and progressively introduced into other ABS data collections. The ABS encourages the use of the ASGS by other organisations to improve the comparability and usefulness of statistics generally, and in analysis and visualisation of statistical and other data.

This publication highlights the Non ABS Structures within the ASGS. The Non ABS Structures bring together those regions which are not defined by the ABS, but which are important to users of ABS statistics. ABS is committed to providing a range of statistics for these areas. They generally represent administrative regions and are approximated by Mesh Blocks, Statistical Areas Level 1 or Statistical Areas Level 2. As the Non ABS Structures represent regions that are subject to ongoing change, the ABS will release a revised publication for core ASGS Non ABS Structures in July each year. The individual structures will only be updated where significant change has occurred in the past year.

This is the third volume in a series detailing the 2016 ASGS produced by the ABS. This volume is also part of the second edition of the ASGS, which updates the first edition (introduced in 2011) for growth and change in Australia's population, economy and infrastructure. The 2016 ASGS edition also incorporates the Territory of Norfolk Island for the first time.

For support and further information about the ASGS and other ABS geospatial products please refer to the ABS website at https://www.abs.gov.au/geography.

Classification structures

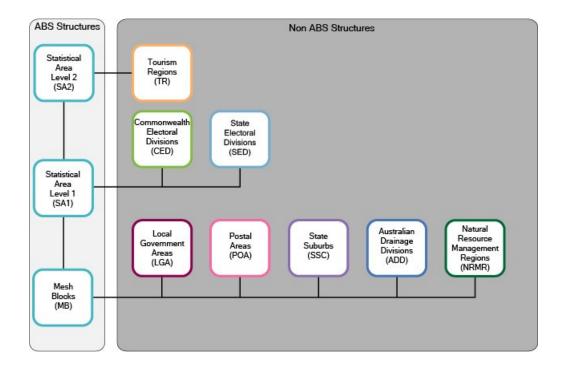
CLASSIFICATION STRUCTURES

The Non ABS Structures of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) comprise eight hierarchies of regions. These include:

- Local Government Area (LGAs)
- Postal Areas (POAs)
- State Suburbs (SSCs)
- Australian Drainage Divisions (ADDs)
- Natural Resource Management Regions (NRMRs)
- Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CEDs)
- State Electoral Divisions (SEDs)
- Tourism Regions (TRs)

Diagram 1 depicts the various ASGS Non ABS structures, their component regions and how they relate to the ASGS.

DIAGRAM 1: ASGS NON ABS STRUCTURES



Methodology

METHODOLOGY

Each of the Non ABS Structures have been approximated using one of three methods.

Firstly, Local Government Areas, Postal Areas, State Suburbs, Australian Drainage Divisions and Natural Resource Management Regions have been constructed by allocating whole Mesh Blocks. The relatively small size of Mesh Blocks and common boundary elements tend to allow Mesh Blocks to match these regions closely. For Postal Areas, Australian Drainage Divisions and Natural Resource Management Regions this provides an improved level of granularity in their construction compared to the previous 2011 edition of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), where they were previously approximated using Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1).

Secondly, Commonwealth Electoral Divisions and State Electoral Divisions have been constructed from SA1s. Use of SA1s has continued for this second edition of the ASGS to ensure that annual population estimates, released at the SA1 level, can be more easily used with these regions. Where possible, SA1s are created to contain broadly similar population counts and therefore can vary greatly in size. This means that boundary mismatches between the original and SA1 derived regions are inevitable, particularly where redesign of boundaries has failed to follow SA1 boundaries. In a number of instances the geographic match between the boundaries of SA1 derived Non ABS Structure regions and the original version of the region is poor.

Allocations of Mesh Blocks and SA1s are generally made by determining which region incorporates the greatest proportion of the estimated population of each Mesh Block or SA1. This approach allows for instances where :

- There was a very close match between the original Non ABS Structure region and a single Mesh Block or SA1
- The original Non ABS Structure region contains a number of Mesh Blocks or SA1s.
- Several of the original Non ABS Structure regions overlap several Mesh Blocks or SA1s. In these instances, Mesh Blocks or SA1s are allocated according the greatest share of the estimated population of the Mesh Block or SA1.

Thirdly, Tourism Regions have been constructed using an allocation of Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) to Tourism Regions, in consultation with the Tourism Research Australia (TRA). Use of SA2s has continued for this second edition of the ASGS to ensure that data from the Survey of Tourist Accommodation, released at the SA2 level, can be more easily used with these regions.

Summary tables

SUMMARY TABLES

A summary of the units of the Non ABS Structures are provided in the tables below.

Region Type	Name	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	OT(a)	Aust.
LGA(b)	Local Government Areas	132	82	80	73	139	31	20	3	3	563
POA(b)(c)	Postal Areas	633	700	445	345	389	118	38	28	6	2670
SSC(b)	State Suburbs	4526	2931	3264	1682	1685	771	305	133	7	15304
ADD(b)(c)	Australian Drainage Divisions	7	4	7	7	7	3	5	3	4	16
NRMR(b)(c)	Natural Resource Management Regions	14	12	17	10	9	5	3	3	6	78

- (a) Other Territories (OT) includes the territories of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Jervis Bay and Norfolk Island
- (b) Includes Migratory Offshore Shipping and No Usual Address
- (c) Regions may cross state boundaries and be counted more than once in individual state/territory figures but only once in the Australia total

Region Type	Name	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	OT(a)	Aust.
SED(b)	State Electoral Divisions	95	90	91	49	61	25	27	7	3	448
CED(b)(c)	Commonwealth Electoral Divisions	49	39	32	13	18	7	4	4	2	168

- (a) Other Territories (OT) includes the territories of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Jervis Bay and Norfolk Island
- (b) Includes Migratory Offshore Shipping and No Usual Address
- (c) Regions may cross state boundaries and be counted more than once in individual state/territory figures but only once in the Australia total

Region Type	Name	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	OT(a)	Aust.
TR	Tourism Regions	13	21	13	12	5	5	7	1	0	77

(a) Other Territories (OT) includes the territories of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Jervis Bay and Norfolk Island

Related material and release timetable

ASGS RELATED MATERIAL AND RELEASE TIMETABLE

This volume contains a description of the regions which make up the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 3: Non ABS Structures. They comprise:

- Local Government Areas (LGAs)
- Postal Areas (POAs)
- State Suburbs (SSCs)
- Australian Drainage Divisions (ADDs)
- National Resource Management Regions (NRMRs)
- Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CEDs)
- State Electoral Divisions (SEDs)
- Tourism Regions (TRs)

SUPPORTING MATERIAL FOR THIS VOLUME

The following supporting material is available with this release for Non ABS Structures:

- digital boundaries for the regions described in this publication as ESRI Shape files, MapInfo Interchange Format files, MapInfo TAB files and Open Geospatial Consortium GeoPackage
- ABS Geospatial Web Services User Guide
- codes, labels and hierarchies for all the regions described in this publication in '.csv' format
- online mapping tool to view and compare the ASGS regions, ABS Maps
- 2011 to 2016 correspondences
- other correspondences available upon request.

The 2016 ASGS including supporting material, digital boundaries, codes, labels, hierarchies, maps and correspondences will be released progressively from July 2016 until early 2018. All of these products will be available from the ABS website at https://www.abs.gov.au/geography.

Non ABS Structures

NON ABS STRUCTURES

This Volume of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) provides a list of Non ABS Structures comprising regions which are not defined by the ABS, but which are important to users of statistics. These regions generally represent administrative areas and are approximated by the allocation of whole Mesh Blocks, Statistical Areas Level 1 (SA1) or Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2).

Postal Areas (POA)

POSTAL AREAS (POAs)

Postal Areas (POAs) are an ABS approximation of postcodes created to enable the release of ABS data on areas that, as closely as possible, approximate postcodes. This enables the comparison of ABS data with other data collected using postcodes as the geographic reference. Postal Areas are approximated using one or more Mesh Blocks (MBs) from the ASGS. Postal Areas are defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia.

Unlike in 2011 when the Postal Areas were built from Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1), in this edition they have been built from Mesh Blocks, singly or in combination.

METHODOLOGY

A postcode is a four digit number used by Australia Post to assist with mail delivery. Australia Post does not currently define geographic boundaries for postcodes. However, a number of organisations create geographic boundaries that aim to define the geographic extent of the mail delivery area for each postcode. Defining postcodes with a geographic boundary is an imprecise process, and this is demonstrated by the fact that there are variations in boundaries released by different organisations. Additionally postcodes cover most, but not all, of Australia; for example, western Tasmania is not covered by a postcode.

In developing Postal Areas, each Mesh Block is allocated to a single Australia Post postcode. Postal Areas derived in this way only **approximate** postcode boundaries. Mesh Block allocations are based on the distribution of the estimated population within each Mesh Block, not on the total area. These allocations have been determined using the best available information on postcode boundaries.

Some Australia Post postcodes are not included in the Postal Area classification. This occurs when no Mesh Block can be allocated to a particular postcode. There are two situations when this occurs where:

- a Mesh Block covers more than one whole postcode, the Mesh Block can be allocated to only one postcode
- more than one Mesh Block partially covers a postcode, but all the Mesh Blocks are allocated to other postcodes, based on the share of population with which they also share area.

Postal Areas exclude Australia Post postcodes that are not street delivery areas. These include post office boxes, mail back competitions, large volume receivers and specialist delivery postcodes. These postcodes are only valid for postal addresses and are not a valid location for population data.

It should be noted that there are instances where postcodes cross state or territory boundaries. In these cases Postal Areas reflect this distribution. The following table lists these Postal Areas.

Postal Area Code	State or Territory				
0872	Northern Territory, South Australia, Western Australia				
2540	New South Wales, Other Territories				
2611	New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory				
2620	New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory				
2618	New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory				
2406	New South Wales, Queensland				
3707	Victoria, New South Wales				
3691	Victoria, New South Wales				
3644	Victoria, New South Wales				

4375	Queensland, New South Wales
4377	Queensland, New South Wales
4380	Queensland, New South Wales
4383	Queensland, New South Wales
4385	Queensland, New South Wales
4825	Queensland, Northern Territory

For the 2016 ASGS, 2670 Postal Areas have been defined. No Usual Address and Migratory-Offshore-Shipping are represented as non-spatial objects in the digital boundaries.

The codes used for the 2016 Postal Areas may not match those used in 2011 in some instances. Changes to codes occur where Australia Post abolishes postcodes or changes codes between editions of the ASGS. Correspondences enabling translation of data from 2011 to 2016 to qualify these changes will be released with this volume.

POSTAL AREA NAMES

Postal Areas are not allocated names since there is no standardised name available for Australia Post postcodes. In most cases the code is repeated in the name field except where State or Territory (S/T) boundaries are crossed when a description is added.

POSTAL AREA CODING STRUCTURE

Each Postal Area code is the same as the corresponding four digit Australia Post postcode.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. Mesh Blocks allocated to these codes are not part of any official Postal Area.

- POA code 9797 is reserved for cases where people are coded to Migratory, Off-Shore and Shipping Mesh Blocks
- POA code 9494 is reserved for cases where people are coded to No Usual Address Mesh Blocks.

Example:

POA Code	POA Name
2614	2614
2615	2615
2617	2617
2618	2618 crosses New South Wales/Australian Capital Territory
2619	2619
9494	No usual address (Aust.)
9797	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Aust.)

State Suburbs (SSC)

STATE SUBURBS (SSC)

State Suburbs (SSC) are an ABS approximation of localities gazetted by the Geographical Place Name authority in each State and Territory. Gazetted Localities are the officially recognised boundaries of suburbs (in cities and larger towns) and localities (outside cities and larger towns). Gazetted Localities cover most of Australia.

Presently there remain areas of rural South Australia and rural Australian Capital Territory that are undefined. Various islands offshore from New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania and some inshore water areas and islands are also undefined. Since 1996, Locality boundaries have been formalised for most areas of Australia through a program coordinated by the Permanent Committee on Place Names (PCPN) under the umbrella of the Intergovernmental Committee On Surveying and Mapping (ISCM). Unlike in 2011, when the State Suburbs were built from Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1), in this edition the State Suburbs have been built from Mesh Blocks that, singly or in combination, form an approximation of Gazetted Localities.

METHODOLOGY

State Suburbs (SSCs) are an ABS approximation of Gazetted Localities, created by allocating one or more Mesh Blocks. State Suburbs are created to enable the release of ABS data on areas that, as closely as possible, approximates Gazetted Localities. This methodology is different to the that used in 2011 where State Suburbs were defined using whole SA1s. This is a significant change and as a result Gazetted Localities represented in the State Suburb classification have a better overall level of accuracy.

In the context of State Suburbs, 'Suburb' covers both suburbs in urban areas and localities in rural and remote areas of Australia. Previously in 2011, areas of rural South Australia, rural Australian Capital Territory, various islands offshore from New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania, and some inshore water areas and islands were not included in State Suburbs. In the 2016 State Suburb classification, the area of South Australia that is not covered by Gazetted Localities has been assigned to the State Suburb "SA Remainder". Similarly, the area of the ACT that is not currently covered by Gazetted Localities has been defined as "ACT Remainder". "ACT Remainder" has been further broken down to approximate the ACT District boundaries.

Example:

State Suburb Code	State Suburb Name				
80001	ACT Remainder - Belconnen				
80002	ACT Remainder - Booth				
80003	ACT Remainder - Coree				
80004	ACT Remainder - Cotter River				
80005	ACT Remainder - Gungahlin				
80006	ACT Remainder - Hall				
80007	ACT Remainder - Jerrabomberra				
80008	ACT Remainder - Kowen				
80009	ACT Remainder - Majura				
80010	ACT Remainder - Molonglo Valley				
80011	ACT Remainder - Paddys River				
80012	ACT Remainder - Rendezvous Creek				
80013	ACT Remainder - Stromlo				
80014	ACT Remainder - Tuggeranong				
80015	ACT Remainder - Weston Creek				

All islands defined within the ASGS have been assigned to a State Suburb in 2016. Where an island falls outside the defined Gazetted Localities, the island is assigned to the nearest mainland State Suburb.

Each Mesh Block has been allocated once to a Gazetted Locality generally based on the largest population contribution. As a result there are Gazetted Localities which will not appear in the State Suburb classification. This occurs in cases:

- · where a Mesh Block covers two or more Gazetted Localities, the Mesh Block can only be allocated to one; or
- where more than one Mesh Block partially covers a Gazetted Locality but all the Mesh Blocks are allocated, based on the share of population, to other Gazetted Localities with which they also share area.

For the 2016 ASGS, 15,304 State Suburbs have been defined. No Usual Address and Migratory-Offshore-Shipping are represented as non-spatial objects in the digital boundaries.

STATE SUBURB NAMES

2016 State Suburbs are based on the August 2016 Gazetted Localities data available from PSMA Australia.

Where the same State Suburb name appears in different States or Territories, the State or Territory abbreviation appears in parenthesis after the name. Where the name is duplicated within a State or Territory, an identifying name based on the Local Government Area name plus the State or Territory abbreviation is used. State Suburb names are therefore unique. It should be noted that there is no connection between State Suburbs and Local Government Areas. The Local Government Area name is used only to differentiate between duplicate names within a State or Territory.

Example:

State Suburb Code	State Suburb Name
31251	Greenmount (Mackay - Qld)
31252	Greenmount (Toowoomba - Qld)
50583	Greenmount (WA)

STATE SUBURB CODING STRUCTURE

State Suburbs are sorted alphabetically by name then allocated a four digit code starting from 0001 within each State or Territory. This is prefixed by a single digit State or Territory code to enable unique identification of State Suburbs across the country.

The codes used for the 2016 State Suburbs may not match those used in 2011 as codes are assigned alphabetically within each State and Territory, and some State Suburb names have changed since 2011. Correspondences enabling translation of data from 2011 to 2016 to qualify these changes will be released with this

volume.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. Mesh Blocks allocated to these codes are not part of any official State Suburb.

- SSC code 9797 is reserved for cases where people are coded to Migratory, Off-Shore and Shipping Mesh Blocks
- SSC code 9494 is reserved for cases where people are coded to No Usual Address Mesh Blocks.

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Suburb Code	State Suburb Name
New South Wales	1	10001	Aarons Pass
New South Wales	1	10002	Abbotsbury
New South Wales	1	10003	Abbotsford (NSW)
New South Wales	1	10004	Abercrombie
New South Wales	1	10005	Abercrombie River
New South Wales	1	10006	Aberdare
New South Wales	1	19494	No usual address (NSW)
New South Wales	1	19797	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (NSW)

Australian Drainage Divisions (ADD)

AUSTRALIAN DRAINAGE DIVISIONS (ADD)

Australian Drainage Divisions (ADD) are an ABS approximation of drainage divisions. Drainage divisions are defined by major landscape features and climatic zones to form broad hydrological regions as represented in the Australian Hydrological Geospatial Fabric (Geofabric) 2014 version 2 developed by the Bureau of Meteorology. Unlike in 2011, when the Australian Drainage Divisions were built from Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1), in this edition they have been built from Mesh Blocks.

More information can be found on the Bureau of Meteorology website: http://www.bom.gov.au/water/geofabric/index.shtml

METHODOLOGY

The ASGS Australian Drainage Divisions are an ABS approximation of those provided through Australian Hydrological Geospatial Fabric, using allocations of one or more Mesh Blocks based on area of overlap (not greatest share of estimated population, as for most other non ABS structures). ASGS Australian Drainage Divisions are created to enable the release of ABS data on areas that, as closely as possible, approximate those provided in the Australian Hydrological Geospatial Fabric. The use of Mesh Blocks is different to that used in 2011 where these Australian Drainage Divisions were defined using whole SA1s. This is a significant change and as a result of this change the overall accuracy has been greatly increased.

The 2016 ASGS Australian Drainage Divisions comprise a total of 16 regions. Australian Drainage Divisions are defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia, excluding the Territories of Norfolk Island, Cocos (Keeling) and Christmas Islands which have been allocated to D91 "Unclassified (Aust.)". Australian Drainage Divisions can cross state borders, the best example of this is the Murray-Darling Basin which crosses over 4 States and Territories.

No Usual Address and Migratory-Offshore-Shipping are represented as non-spatial objects in the digital boundaries

AUSTRALIAN DRAINAGE DIVISION NAMES

Australian Drainage Division names are the same as those allocated by the Bureau of Meteorology.

AUSTRALIAN DRAINAGE DIVISION CODING STRUCTURE

Australian Drainage Divisions are sorted by name then allocated a two digit code starting from 01. This is prefixed by a "D" which enables unique identification across the country and differentiates them from other ABS codes.

The codes used for the ASGS Australian Drainage Divisions may not match those used in 2011 in some instances as codes are assigned alphabetically within each State and Territory, and some Australian Drainage Division have changed. Correspondences enabling translation of data from 2011 to 2016 to qualify these changes are available upon request.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. Mesh Blocks allocated to these codes are not part of any official drainage division.

- ADD code D94 is reserved for those States or Territories where people are coded to the No Usual Address SA1s.
- ADD code D97 is reserved for States or Territories that have Migratory, Off-Shore and Shipping SA1s.

Example:

Australian Drainage Division Code	Australian Drainage Division Name			
D01	Carpentaria Coast			
D02	Lake Eyre Basin			
D03	Murray-Darling Basin			
D04	North East Coast			
D91	Unclassified (Aust.)			
D94	No usual address (Aust.)			
D97	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Aust.)			

Natural Resource Management Regions (NRMR)

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REGIONS (NRMR)

Natural Resource Management Regions (NRMR) are an ABS based approximation of Natural Resource Management regions (NRM). They are administrative regions primarily used by the Department of the Environment and Energy and the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources who share responsibility for delivery of the Australian Government's environment and sustainable agriculture programs, which are broadly referred to as Natural Resource Management (NRM).

Natural Resource Management regions change occasionally as States and Territories revise their boundaries.

More information can be found on the National Landcare Programme website: http://www.nrm.gov.au/national-landcare-programme

METHODOLOGY

The Natural Resource Management Regions are an ABS approximation of the 2016 Natural Resource Management regions, defined through the Australian Governments National Landcare Programme, using allocations of one or more Mesh Blocks based on area of overlap (not greatest share of estimated population, as for most other Non ABS structures). The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Natural Resource Management Regions have been created using Mesh Blocks to enable the release of ABS data on areas that, as closely as possible, approximate those provided. The use of Mesh Blocks is different to that used in 2011 where these were defined using whole Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1). This is a significant change and as a result of this change the overall accuracy has been greatly increased.

The 2016 ASGS Natural Resource Management Regions comprise a total of 78 regions and are defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia. Natural Resource Management Regions do not generally cross State or Territory borders, except for Jervis Bay which has been included in the New South Wales Natural Resource Management Region South East NSW. The Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory each have one Natural Resource Management Region. Norfolk Island, Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands have been included as their own Natural Resource Management Regions for the 2016 ASGS.

No Usual Address and Migratory-Offshore-Shipping are represented as non-spatial objects in the digital boundaries

NATIONAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REGION NAMES

National Resource Management Region names are the same as those allocated by the Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy.

NATIONAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REGION CODING STRUCTURE

National Resource Management Regions are sorted by name then allocated a two digit code starting from 01 within each State or Territory. This is prefixed by a single digit State or Territory code to enable unique identification of NRMRs across the country.

The codes used for the National Resource Management Regions are unlikely to match those used in 2011 as codes are assigned alphabetically within each State and Territory, and many Natural Resource Management Region names have changed since 2011. Correspondences enabling translation of data from 2011 to 2016 to qualify these changes are available upon request.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. Mesh Blocks allocated to these codes are not part of any official National Resource Management Region.

- NRMR code 94 is reserved for those States or Territories where people are coded to the No Usual Address SA1s.
- NRMR code 97 is reserved for those States or Territories that have Migratory, Off-Shore and Shipping SA1s.

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	Natural Resource Management Region Code	Natural Resource Management Region Name
Queensland	3	301	Burnett Mary
Queensland	3	302	Cape York
Queensland	3	303	Condamine
Queensland	3	304	Cooperative Management Area
Queensland	3	305	Desert Channels
Queensland	3	306	Fitzroy Basin
Queensland	3	394	No usual address (Qld)
Queensland	3	397	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Qld)

Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CED)

COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISIONS (CED)

Commonwealth Electoral Divisions (CED) are an ABS approximation of Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) electoral division boundaries. An Australian Electoral Commission electoral division boundary is an area legally prescribed for the purpose of returning one member to the House of Representatives, Australia's Federal Lower House of Parliament. Boundaries are based upon the Australian Electoral Commission electoral division boundaries current on Census Night 9 August 2016. Commonwealth Electoral Divisions may change as the Australian Electoral Commission revise their boundaries. Where the Australian Electoral Commission revise their boundaries, the Commonwealth Electoral Divisions will be updated on an annual basis in July in conjunction with updates of other Non ABS Structures.

More information can be found on the Australian Electoral Commission website: http://www.aec.gov.au

METHODOLOGY

Commonwealth Electoral Divisions developed by the ABS are an approximation of the official Commonwealth Electoral Divisions, developed by the Australian Electoral Commission, using one or more Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1). Each SA1 has been allocated once to a Commonwealth Electoral Division based on the largest population contribution. It should be noted that where a SA1 covers two or more Commonwealth Electoral Division, the SA1 can only be allocated to one electorate.

For the 2016 ASGS, 168 Commonwealth Electoral Divisions have been defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia. These do not generally cross State and Territory borders but there are three exceptions.

- Norfolk Island is included in the Australia Capital Territory electorate of Canberra;
- Jervis Bay Territory is included in the Australian Capital Territory electorate of Fraser; and
- the Territories of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands are included in the Northern Territory electorate of Lingiari.

No Usual Address and Migratory-Offshore-Shipping are represented as non spatial objects in the digital boundaries.

COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION NAMES

Commonwealth Electoral Division names are the same as those allocated by the Australian Electoral Commission.

COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION CODING STRUCTURE

Commonwealth Electoral Divisions are sorted by name then allocated a two digit code starting from 01 within each State or Territory. This is prefixed by a single digit State or Territory code to enable unique identification of Commonwealth Electoral Divisions across the country.

The codes used for the 2016 Commonwealth Electoral Divisions may not match those used in 2011 as codes are assigned alphabetically within each State and Territory, and some Commonwealth Electoral Division names have changed since 2011. Correspondences enabling translation of data from 2011 to 2016 to qualify these changes will be released with this volume.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. SA1s allocated to these codes are not part of any official

Commonwealth Electoral Division.

- CED code 94 is reserved for those State and Territories where people are coded to the No Usual Address SA1s
- CED code 97 is reserved for those State and Territories that have Migratory, Off-Shore and Shipping SA1s.

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	Commonwealth Electoral Division Code	Commonwealth Electoral Division Name
South Australia	4	401	Adelaide
South Australia	4	402	Barker
South Australia	4	403	Boothby
South Australia	4	404	Grey
South Australia	4	405	Hindmarsh
South Australia	4	406	Kingston
South Australia	4	494	No usual address (SA)
South Australia	4	497	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (SA)

State Electoral Divisions (SED)

STATE ELECTORAL DIVISIONS (SED)

State Electoral Divisions (SED) are an ABS approximation of State Electoral Districts. A state electoral district is an area legally prescribed for the purpose of returning one or more members to the State or Territory Lower Houses of Parliament, or the relevant equivalent. Boundaries are based upon the State Electoral Districts current on Census Night 9 August 2016. State Electoral Divisions may change as State or Territory authorities revise their boundaries. Where the Australian Electoral Commission revise their boundaries, the State Electoral Divisions will be updated on an annual basis in July in conjunction with updates of other Non ABS Structures.

The Australian Electoral Commission website http://www.aec.gov.au provides links to all State or Territory Electoral Authorities.

METHODOLOGY

State Electoral Divisions developed by the ABS are an approximation of the official State Electoral Divisions using one or more Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1). Each SA1 has been allocated once to a State Electoral Division based on the largest population contribution. It should be noted that where a SA1 covers two or more State Electoral Division, the SA1 can only be allocated to one electorate.

For the 2016 ASGS, 448 State Electoral Divisions have been defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia, with the exception of the external territories of Jervis Bay, Norfolk Island, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, which are allocated to "Unclassified (OT)". State Electoral Divisions do not cross State and Territory borders.

Unclassified, No Usual Address and Migratory-Offshore-Shipping are represented as non spatial objects in the digital boundaries.

STATE ELECTORAL DIVISION NAMES

State Electoral Division names are the same as those allocated by the Electoral Commission in each respective State or Territory.

STATE ELECTORAL DIVISION CODING STRUCTURE

State Electoral Divisions are allocated a four digit code within each State or Territory. This is prefixed by a single digit State or Territory code to enable unique identification of States or Territories across the country.

The codes used for the 2016 State Electoral Divisions may not match those used in 2011 as codes are assigned alphabetically within each State and Territory, and some State Electoral Division names have changed since 2011. Correspondences enabling translation of data from 2011 to 2016 to qualify these changes will be released with this volume.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. SA1s allocated to these codes are not part of any official State Electoral Division.

 SED code 9494 is reserved for those State or Territories where people are coded to the No Usual Address SA1s. • SED code 9797 is reserved for those State or Territories that have Migratory, Off-Shore and Shipping SA1s.

Example:

State and Territory	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
5	9494	No usual address (WA)
5	9797	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (WA)

It should be noted that States or Territories have different electoral arrangements. A summary of these differences and how they affect the State Electoral Division classification are provided below:

New South Wales (NSW)

New South Wales has two Houses of Parliament but only the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) electoral districts are represented in the State Electoral Division classification since the Legislative Council (upper House) is a single constituency. State Electoral Divisions are sorted by Lower House district name and then allocated a State or Territory code (digit 1) and a code starting from 0001 (digits 2-5).

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
New South Wales	1	10001	Albury
New South Wales	1	10002	Auburn

Victoria (Vic.)

In Victoria, the Legislative Council (Upper House) regions are obtained by amalgamating the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) electoral districts. The State Electoral Division classification provides information on both of these houses. The code comprises a State or Territory code (digit 1), a Lower House code (digits 2-3) and an Upper House code (digits 4-5). Upper House region names are recorded in brackets after the Lower House district names.

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
Victoria	2	20106	Albert Park (Southern Metropolitan)
Victoria	2	20207	Altona (Western Metropolitan)

Queensland (Qld)

Queensland has only one House of Parliament (the Legislative Assembly) with each member representing an electoral district. These districts are equivalent to divisions in this classification. State Electoral Divisions are sorted by name then allocated a State or Territory code (digit 1) and a code starting from 0001 (digits 2-5).

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
Queensland	3	30001	Albert
Queensland	3	30002	Algester

South Australia (SA)

Like New South Wales, in South Australia, there are two Houses of Parliament but only the House of Assembly (Lower House) electoral districts are represented in the State Electoral Division classification since the Legislative Council (Upper House) is a single constituency. State Electoral Divisions are sorted by Lower House name then allocated a State or Territory code (digit 1) and a code starting from 0001 (digits 2-5).

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
South Australia	4 4	40001	Adelaide
South Australia		40002	Ashford

In Western Australia, Legislative Council (Upper House) regions are obtained by amalgamating the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) electoral districts. The State Electoral Division classification provides information on both of these houses. The five-digit code comprises a State or Territory code (digit 1), a Lower House code (digits 2-3) and an Upper House code (digits 4-5). Upper House region names are recorded in brackets after the Lower House district names.

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
Western Australia	5	50106	Albany (South West)
Western Australia	5	50205	Alfred Cove (South Metropolitan)

Tasmania (Tas.)

In Tasmania there are two Houses of Parliament, the House of Assembly (Lower House) and the Legislative Council (Upper House). The Upper House divisions do not aggregate to or from the Lower House divisions. Information on both Houses is provided by the State Electoral Division classification. The code comprises a State or Territory code (digit 1) and a Lower House code (digits 2-3) and an Upper House code (digits 4-5). Tasmanian Upper House names are recorded in brackets after Lower House names. Because Upper House divisions do not aggregate from the Lower House divisions there is more than one code covering a Lower House division, for example, one for each overlapping House division.

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
Tasmania	6	60302	Denison (Derwent)
Tasmania	6	60303	Denison (Elwick)
Tasmania	6	60304	Denison (Hobart)
Tasmania	6	60305	Denison (Huon)
Tasmania	6	60310	Denison (Nelson)
Tasmania	6	60402	Franklin (Derwent)
Tasmania	6	60405	Franklin (Huon)
Tasmania	6	60410	Franklin (Nelson)

Northern Territory (NT)

In the Northern Territory there is only one House of Parliament, the Legislative Assembly, the electorates for which are equivalent to the divisions in the State Electoral Division classification. State Electoral Divisions are sorted by name, then allocated a State or Territory code (digit 1), then a code starting from 0001 (digits 2-5).

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
Northern Territory Northern Territory	7 7	70001 70002	Arafura Araluen
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	10002	7 i dideii

Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

The Australian Capital Territory has only one House of Parliament, the Legislative Assembly, the electorates for which are equivalent to the divisions in the State Electoral Division classification. State Electoral Divisions are sorted by name and then allocated State or Territory code (digit 1), then a code starting from 0001 (digits 2-5).

Example:

State and Territory Name	State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name
Australian Capital Territory	8 8	80001	Brindabella
Australian Capital Territory		80002	Ginninderra

Other Territories (OT)

There are no State Electoral boundaries for Other Territories.

State and Territory Code	State Electoral Division Code	State Electoral Division Name

9 99191 Unclassified (OT)

Tourism Regions (TR)

TOURISM REGIONS (TR)

Tourism Regions (TR) are an ABS approximation of Tourism Regions provided by Tourism Research Australia (TRA). They are administrative regions primarily used by Tourism Research Australia for research and policy purposes.

More information can be found on the Tourism Research Australia website: https://www.tra.gov.au/research/Regional-overview.html

METHODOLOGY

The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Tourism Regions have been created using Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) to enable the release of ABS data on areas that, as closely as possible, approximate those provided.

For the 2016 ASGS, 77 Tourism Regions have been defined. Tourism Regions do not cross State or Territory borders. The ACT has only one Tourism Region and there are no Tourism Regions for the Other Territories (OT). 'Migratory-Offshore-Shipping' SA2s are generally not included, except for the 'Migratory-Offshore-Shipping (QLD)' SA2 which is used to create an entry for the Tourism Region of the 'Great Barrier Reef' (3R160). The 'Great Barrier Reef' Tourism Region is a non-spatial entry and is only provided so that data can be coded.

TOURISM REGION NAMES

ASGS Tourism Region names are the same as those specified by the relevant State or Territory Tourism organisations.

TOURISM REGION CODING STRUCTURE

ASGS Tourism Regions are sorted by name then allocated a two digit code starting from 01 within each State or Territory. This is prefixed by a single digit State or Territory code to enable unique identification of Tourism Regions across the country.

The codes used for Tourism Regions may not match those used in 2011 in some instances. Correspondences enabling translation of data from 2011 to 2016 to qualify these changes will be released with this volume.

Special purpose codes are not included for Tourism Regions.

Example:

State and Territory	Tourism Region	Name
1		New South Wales
1 2	R100	Hunter Victoria
2 3	R100	High Country Queensland
3	R100	Whitsundays

About this Release

This publication is the third in a series of five yearly Volumes that details the various structures and regions of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). This 2016 standard provides a common framework of statistical geography used by the ABS and other organisations to enable the publication of statistics that are comparable and spatially integrated. The ASGS provides users with an integrated set of standard regions that they can use to access, visualise, analyse and understand statistics produced by the ABS and other organisations.

Volume 3 provides a list of Non-ABS Structures comprising regions which are not defined by the ABS, but which are important to users of statistics. These regions generally represent administrative areas and are approximated by the allocation of whole Mesh Blocks, Statistical Areas Level 1 or Statistical Areas Level 2. The digital boundaries and allocation tables for each of these regions are available for download within this product.

History of Changes

This document was added or updated on 08/05/2018.

08/11/2018 ASGS Volume 3 Non ABS Structures, July 2016 edition, Local Government Area (LGA), minor change to remove editing comments in content on LGA page.

07/11/2018 ASGS Volume 3 Non ABS Structures, July 2016 edition, Local Government Area (LGA) data cubes have been updated to reflect a revised allocation of two Mesh Blocks. This corrects misallocations between Local Government Areas in Queensland and New South Wales. The Local Government Area page in this publication has been updated to provide the details of this revision, including links to access updated data on these areas.

16/05/2018 ASGS Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2016 edition, State Electoral Division (SED) .csv format data cube. File modified to include full field length and content for "SED_NAME_2016".

7/05/2018 ASGS Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2016 edition, State Electoral Division (SED) data cubes have been modified to capture the 2015 Western Australia Redistribution.

Explanatory Notes

Metadata for Digital Boundary Files

METADATA FOR DIGITAL BOUNDARY FILES - ASGS NON ABS STRUCTURES

Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures (cat no. 1270.0.55.003)

Date of Publication/ Date Stamp: 13 September 2016

Presentation Format: Digital boundaries

CUSTODIAN

Custodian: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

DESCRIPTION

Abstract:

The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) is a hierarchy of geographic structures designed to meet the specific requirements of ABS statistical outputs as well as being able to represent commonly used Non ABS geographic structures. The ASGS brings all the regions for which the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publishes statistics within the one framework and will be used by the ABS for the collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics from the 1 July 2016.

This product, Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures (cat no. 1270.0.55.003), is the third in a series of five volumes that describe the structures that make up the ASGS. Its purpose is to outline the conceptual basis for the design of the Non ABS Structures. This product contains several elements including the manual, region names and codes and the digital boundaries.

The digital boundaries for Volume 3 of the ASGS represent the Non ABS Structures, comprising of:

- Local Government Area (LGA)
- Postal Area (POA)
- State Suburb (SSC)
- Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED)
- State Electoral Division (SED)
- Natural Resource Management Region (NRMR)
- Australian Drainage Division (ADD)
- Tourism Region (TR).

File Nomenclature:

File names have the format <file type> <2016> <AUST> where:

<file type> represents the type of boundaries in each file

LGA = Local Government Area

POA = Postal Area

SSC = State Suburb

CED = Commonwealth Electoral Division

SED = State Electoral Division

NRMR = Natural Resource Management Region

ADD = Australian Drainage Division

TR = Tourism Region

<2016> represents 2016 the year of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Edition

< AUST> indicates the data covers all of Australia as defined in ASGS Volume 1.

Where applicable States and Territories are identified by unique one digit codes, as listed below:

State and Territory Codes and Names

Code	State and Territory	
1	New South Wales	
2	Victoria	
3	Queensland	
4	South Australia	
5	Western Australia	
6	Tasmania	
7	Northern Territory	
8	Australian Capital Territory	
9	Other Territories	

File Attributes:

All tables show file type, file name, spatial unit field and the data type.

File Type: Local Government Area (LGA)

File Name (s): LGA_2016_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif, TAB and GeoPackage)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type	Length	
1	LGA_CODE_2016	LGA_CODE16	Character	5	
2	LGA NAME 2016	LGA NAME16	Character	50	
3	STATE CODE 2016	STE_CODE16	Character	1	
4	STATE_NAME_2016	STE_NAME16	Character	50	
5	AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	AREASQKM16	Float		

File Type: Postal Area (POA)

File Name (s): POA 2016 AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif, TAB and GeoPackage)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type	Length	
1	POA_CODE_2016	POA_CODE16	Character	4	
3	POA_NAME_2016 AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	POA_NAME16 AREASQKM16	Character Float	40	

File Type: State Suburb (SSC)

File Name (s): SSC_2016_AUST

1	SSC CODE 2016	SSC CODE16	Character	5	
2	SSC NAME 2016	SSC_NAME16	Character	50	
3	STATE CODE 2016	STE CODE16	Character	1	
4	STATE NAME 2016	STE NAME16	Character	50	
4	AREA ALBERS SQKM	AREASQKM16	Float		

File Type: Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED)

File Name (s): CED_2016_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif, TAB and GeoPackage)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type	Length	
1 2 3	CED_CODE_2016 CED_NAME_2016 AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	CED_CODE16 CED_NAME16 AREASQKM16	Character Character Float	3 40	

File Type: State Electoral Division (SED)

File Name (s): SED_2016_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif, TAB and GeoPackage)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type	Length	
1	SED_CODE_2016	SED_CODE16	Character	5	
2 3	SED_NAME_2016 AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	SED_NAME16 AREASQKM16	Character Float	50	

File Type: Natural Resource Management Region (NRMR)

File Name (s): NRMR_2016_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif, TAB and GeoPackage)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type	Length	
1 2 3	NRMR_CODE_2016 NRMR_NAME_2016 AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	NRM_CODE16 NRM_NAME16 AREASQKM16	Character Character Float	3 40	

File Type: Australian Drainage Division (ADD)

File Name (s): ADD_2016_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif, TAB and GeoPackage)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type	Length	
1	ADD_CODE_2016	ADD_CODE16	Character	3	
2	ADD NAME 2016	ADD NAME16	Character	40	
3	AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	AREASQKM16	Float		

File Type: Tourism Region (TR)

File Name (s): TR_2016_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif, TAB and GeoPackage)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type	Length
1	TR_CODE_2016	TR_CODE16	Character	5
2	TR_NAME_2016	TR_NAME16	Character	50
3	STATE_CODE_2016	STE_CODE16	Character	1
4	STATE_NAME_2016	STE_NAME16	Character	50
5	AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	AREASQKM16	Float	

DATA CURRENCY

Date of Effect: 13 September 2016

DATASET STATUS

Progress: Completed dataset

Maintenance and Update Frequency:

As the Non ABS Structures represent regions that are subject to ongoing change, the ABS will release a revised publication for ASGS Non ABS Structures in July each year. The individual structures will only be updated where significant change has occurred in the past year.

ACCESS

Stored Data Format:

Digital as separate files for each level of the Indigenous Structure of the ASGS 2016.

Available Format:

The digital boundary files are in MapInfo TAB format (.TAB), MapInfo Interchange Format (.MID .MIF), Geopackage and ESRI Shapefile (.shp) format.

Spatial Representation Type:

Vector

Access Constraints:

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Datum:

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94)

The digital boundary files have the datum specified as 116 (GDA94). Users of MapInfo 6.0 or later are able to load data sets based on GDA94 directly, without transformation. Earlier versions of MapInfo cannot interpret GDA94 correctly and there may be alignment problems between data sets based on this datum and other earlier datums.

Projection:

Geographical (i.e. Latitudes and Longitudes)

Geographic Extent:

Geographic Australia.

DATA QUALITY

Lineage:

Mesh Blocks are the building blocks of the ASGS regions. Mesh Block boundaries were created using various sources including the PSMA digital topographic datasets, ABS SLA boundaries and zoning information from state planning agencies and imagery.

Positional Accuracy:

Positional accuracy is an assessment of the closeness of the location of the spatial objects in relation to their true

positions on the earth's surface.

The positional accuracy includes:

- a horizontal accuracy assessment
- a vertical accuracy assessment

Positional accuracy for ABS boundaries is dependent on the accuracy of the features they have been aligned to. ABS boundaries are aligned to a number of layers supplied by PSMA with an accuracy of +/-50 mm.

PSMA layers and their positional accuracy are as follows:

- Transport and Topography
 - +/- 2 meters in urban areas and +/- 10 meters in rural and remote areas
- CadLite
 - +/- 2 meters in urban areas and +/- 10 meters in rural and remote areas
- Administrative Boundaries
 - Derived from the cadastre data from each Australian State and Territory jurisdiction
- Greenspace and Hydrology
 Relative spatial accuracy of these themes reflects that of the jurisdictional source data. Generally the accuracy is +/- 2 metres in urban areas and +/- 10 metres in rural and remote areas.

Attribute Accuracy:

All codes and labels for all structures within the ASGS 2016 Non ABS Structures are fully validated.

Logical Consistency:

Spatial units are closed polygons. Attribute records without spatial objects have been included in the data for administrative purposes.

Completeness:

All structures within the 2016 ASGS Non ABS Structures are represented.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Contact: For further information email <cli>client.services@abs.gov.au> or contact the National Information and Referral Service (NIRS) on 1300 135 070.

Information about CSV Files

INFORMATION ABOUT CSV FILES

The product Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures (cat no. 1270.0.55.003) contains comma-separated value (.csv) files. These files list the codes, labels and hierarchies for all the regions within the ASGS Non ABS Structures.

There are sixteen .csv files listing the geographical hierarchies for each of the following regions:

- Local Government Area (LGA) for each State and Territory (9 csv. files)
- Postal Area (POA)
- State Suburb (SSC)
- Natural Resource Management Region (NRMR)
- Australian Drainage Division (ADD)
- Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED)
- State Electoral Division (SED)
- Tourism Region (TR).

Most Non ABS Structures have Mesh Blocks the lowest level unit. Commonwealth Electoral Divisions and State Electoral Divisions have Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) as the lowest level and Tourism Regions have (Statistical Area Level 2) as the lowest level unit.

FILE CONTENTS:

The .csv files generally contain the following fields: <BASE_REGION>_CODE_2016 <REGION>_CODE_2016 <REGION>_NAME_2016 STATE_CODE_2016 STATE_NAME_2016 AREA_ALBERS_SQKM

Information about 2011 to 2016 ASGS Correspondences

INFORMATION ABOUT 2011 to 2016 ASGS CORRESPONDENCES

The ABS has developed a suite of geographical correspondences, primarily to assist users make comparisons and maintain time series between different editions of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). Correspondences are a mathematical method of reassigning data from one geographic region to another geographic region. The 2011 to 2016 ASGS correspondences utilise a 2011 Mesh Block (MB) population weighted grid.

In many cases a correspondence is the only option available when attempting to convert data from one geographic region to another and may be an appropriate approach. However, caution should always be used when applying correspondences as there may be instances where this approach would not appropriately reflect the actual characteristics of a region. Issues surrounding the use of correspondences are discussed in the ABS publication: Information Paper: Converting Data to the Australian Statistical Geography Standard, 2012 (cat. no. 1216.0.55.004).

This document details how the population weighted grid method produces correspondences, and provides a description of how the quality indicator is calculated. To assist users with making a determination of how well a correspondence may or may not convert data, the ABS has developed a quality indicator which is supplied with each correspondence.

The following ASGS Main structure example and method reflect the approach used for correspondences produced for ASGS Volumes 1, 2 and 3.

Population Weighted Grid Correspondences

The population weighted grid method that the ABS has adopted generates a series of grid points that represent the underlying geographical distribution of a weighting unit, most often the Mesh Block population. For the population distribution, these points have been developed with input from various administrative sources including Geoscience Australia's Gazetteer and PSMA's Geocoded National Address File.

Each grid point is then assigned a value based on this population weight. These are subsequently used as a basis

for determining how much of the weighting unit is donated to a 'TO unit' based on how the weighting unit is intersected. This is demonstrated in the below example which develops a 2011 MB to 2016 Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) correspondence.

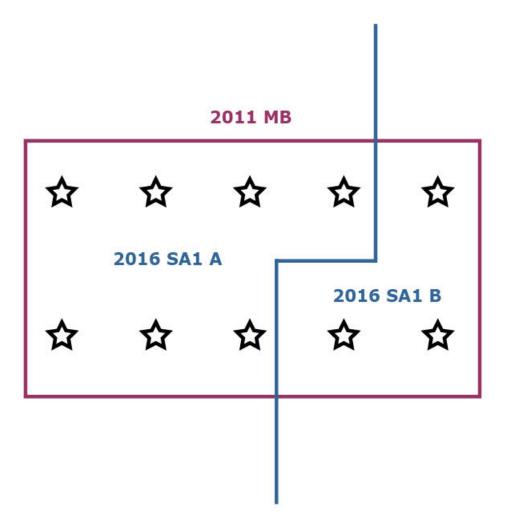


Diagram 1: Example of developing a correspondence between a 2011 MB and two 2016 SA1s which intersect a MB.

In the example the red boundary is a 2011 Mesh Block, which is the weighting unit in this correspondence. It is intersected by two 2016 SA1s, which are the TO units, or the geographical boundaries that are being corresponded to. The Mesh Block weighting unit above contains 40 persons. This population is then evenly distributed across the 10 grid points, meaning each grid point represents 4 persons.

The next step in the correspondence generation process is to determine the proportion that the MB, as the weighting unit, is donating to the respective SA1 TO units. As can be seen in the diagram above there are 7 grid points in SA1 A, and three in SA1 B. Given that each grid point represents 4 persons, 28 persons are located in SA1 A and 12 in SA1 B. In proportional terms the weighting unit is then donating to the respective SA1s as follows:

- SA1 A: 28 / 40 which gives a ratio of 0.7 or 70 per cent.
- SA1 B: 12 / 40 which gives a ratio of 0.3 or 30 per cent.

So the result is that the MB in question is donating 70 per cent of its data to SA1 A, and 30 per cent of its data to SA1 B.

The benefit of using this method is that any two sets of geographic regions can have a correspondence generated for them, and that any attribute value can be distributed across the grid to be used as the weighting unit.

Quality Indicator

The ABS conducted an investigation to determine how accurately correspondences converted data. This found that while some correspondences converted data well, there were many cases where the converted data did not reflect the actual characteristics of some geographical regions. Based on these findings a quality indicator was developed to inform data users of instances where the converted data values are likely to be accurate, and where caution will

be needed to be used when assessing the results.

The method that has been developed to generate the quality indicator involves a number of steps. Firstly it looks at the value that a FROM region donates to a TO region as a ratio of the whole FROM region. The next step is to examine the value that the FROM region donates to the TO region as a ratio of the whole TO region. These two values are then multiplied together to provide the component for that FROM region. This process is then repeated for each donating FROM region, with the component values then added to provide the overall score for the TO region. Based on the score returned, a textual description is then applied as to how well the ABS expects data to be converted to the TO region. This is highlighted in the example below.

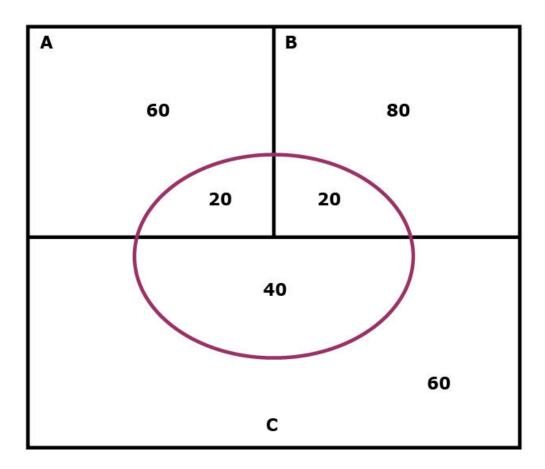


Diagram 2: Illustration of 3 FROM regions to 1 TO region.

In this example there are three FROM regions A, B and C represented by the black boundaries. The TO region is represented by the red ellipse.

REGION A CALCULATION

STEP 1: Region A donates 20 persons to the TO region, while there are a further 60 people in FROM Region A that are not donated to the TO region. Therefore the ratio of FROM region A is 20 / 80, or 0.25.

STEP 2: The next step is to look at the value that is being donated from Region A compared to the total value of the TO region (ie 80 persons comprising 20 from Region A + 20 from Region B + 40 from Region C). Region A donates 20 persons, and the total population is 80. So in this case the ratio is 20 / 80, or 0.25.

STEP 3: Region A's component score is then calculated by multiplying the TO and FROM score (0.25×0.25) giving Region A a component score of 0.0625.

The same process is then applied to FROM Regions B and C.

REGION B CALCULATION

Region B donates 20 persons with a further 80 persons in the remainder of the FROM region. Therefore its ratio is 20 / 100 or 0.2. Region B donates 20 persons and the total population of the TO region is 80 so the ratio is 20 / 80 or 0.25. Region B's component score is therefore 0.2 x 0.25 or 0.05.

REGION C CALCULATION

Again Region C donates 40 persons with another 60 in the remainder of FROM Region C. The ratio is 40 / 100 or 0.4. The 40 persons donated are then compared against the total population of the TO region of 80, so the ratio is

40 / 80 or 0.5. This results in the component score for From Region C being 0.4 x 0.5 or 0.2.

SUMMING COMPONENT SCORES

The final step is to add the three component scores. In this case:

- Region A = 0.0625
- Region B = 0.05
- Region C = 0.2

QUALITY INDICATOR

The final result is that the TO region in this example would have a quality indicator score of 0.3125, a score that the ABS would regard as being poor, meaning that caution would have to be used when using the results of data converted to the TO region.

The textual descriptions and the associated definitions that will be supplied for each TO region in a correspondence are as follows.

Good (Greater than 0.9)— The ABS expects that for this TO region the correspondence will convert data to a high degree of accuracy and users can expect the converted data will reflect the actual characteristics of the geographic regions involved.

Acceptable (0.75 to 0.9)— The ABS expects that for this TO region the correspondence will convert data to a reasonable degree of accuracy, though caution needs to be applied as the quality of the converted data will vary and may differ from the actual characteristics of the geographic regions involved.

Poor (Less than 0.75) – The ABS expects that for this TO region there is a high likelihood the correspondence will not convert data accurately and that the converted data should be used with caution as it may not reflect the actual characteristics of many of the geographic regions involved.

Overall Quality Indicator

An overall quality indicator is given to each correspondence. The aim of this is to provide users with a reasonable idea of how well the correspondence will convert data across the whole of the correspondence.

The overall quality indicator is derived from multiplying the population of each TO region with that TO regions quality indicator score, based on the methodology described above. The values produced by this multiplication for each TO region are then added together. This aggregated value is then divided by the total population of the TO regions. This will return a result similar to the individual quality indicator scores. Similar textual descriptions are then applied. **Good** – The ABS expects that the correspondence will convert data overall to a high degree of accuracy and users can expect the converted data will reflect the actual characteristics of the geographic regions involved.

Acceptable – The ABS expects that the correspondence will convert data overall to a reasonable degree of accuracy, though caution needs to be applied as the quality of the converted data will vary and may differ in parts from the actual characteristics of the geographic regions involved.

Poor – The ABS expects there is a high likelihood the correspondence will not convert data overall accurately and that the converted data should be used with caution as it may not reflect the actual characteristics of many of the geographic regions involved.

Metadata for Correspondences

METADATA FOR CORRESPONDENCE FILES

Correspondences allow users to reallocate data between areas by providing a population weighted proportionate distribution and a goodness of fit indicator. These correspondences may then be extended to develop a one to one concordance based on the most significant contributors.

This publication contains a suite of correspondences for the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Non ABS Structures between the 2011 and 2016 ASGS.

FILE FORMAT

There are a number of correspondences available within this product. The correspondences are supplied in

Microsoft Excel format (.xls). Within each Microsoft Excel file there may be several Worksheets along with a Contents page and Explanatory Notes.

The Worksheets are as follows:

QI MEASURE

This Worksheet contains the overall quality measure in textual description, This Worksheet will always be supplied with correspondences.

QI INDICATOR

This Worksheet contains the individual quality indicator in textual descriptions for every TO region. This Worksheet will always be supplied with correspondences.

CORRESPONDENCE

This Worksheet contains the main correspondence and the majority of the records. This Worksheet will always be supplied with correspondences.

NULL_TO_OR_FROM_FIELD

This Worksheet contains records where a FROM region does not have a corresponding TO region, or vice versa. An example of when this may occur is when one geography dataset contain islands which are not included in the other dataset. This Worksheet will only be supplied if records fall in to this category.

BELOW_MINIMUM_OUTPUT_SIZE

This Worksheet contains records that have a statistical weight below a pre-set minimum (typically below 0.01). These are records where the proportion of the FROM region that is being donated is very small and is deemed as being statistically insignificant. This Worksheet will only be supplied if there are records that fall in to this category.

MISSING_TO_UNITS

Contains records where the TO unit is not represented elsewhere in the correspondence. This is due to the TO unit being very small relative to the FROM unit and, as a result, a grid point is not associated with the TO unit. In cases where this occurs, documentation will be included with the affected correspondence as well as a list of the TO units that are not represented in the other Worksheets.

FILE NAMING CONVENTION FOR GRID BASED CORRESPONDENCES

Correspondence File Name

Grid based correspondences supplied by the ABS have a standard naming convention applied. The examples below relates to a correspondence where 2011 Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2) are being corresponded to 2016 SA2s.

File name:

Statistical Area Level 2 2011 TO Statistical Area Level 2 2016

and

CG_SA2_2011_SA2_2016.xls

Table 1: Character and meaning of the file name.

Character	Meaning
С	Correspondence
G	Grid based correspondence
SA2	Represents the name of the FROM region, in this case Statistical Area Level 2
2011	The year that this version of the FROM region was released
SA2	Represents the name of the TO region, in this case Statistical Area Level 2
2016	The year that this version of the TO region was released
.xls	The format that the file is being supplied, Microsoft Excel format

CORRESPONDENCE WORKBOOK AND FIELD DEFINITIONS

Below is an example of the content for each of the Worksheets in the correspondence Microsoft Excel Workbook files provided in this publication. Definition of the fields in the Worksheets is also provided with the examples.

The QI MEASURE Worksheet

Table 2: An example of the overall quality indicator of a grid based correspondence file.

QI_MEASURE

Good

In the above example the field name and descriptions are:

QI MEASURE

The overall quality indicator for the entire correspondence.

The same textual descriptions used for the overall quality measure are also applied to the individual quality indicators. The textual descriptions are Good, Acceptable and Poor.

The QI_INDICATOR Worksheet

Table 3: An example of the quality indicator of a grid based correspondence file for each TO region.

SA2_MAINCODE_2016	SA2_NAME_2016	QI_INDICATOR	
801051123	Black Mountain	Poor	
801051126	Parkes (ACT) - North	Poor	
801101137	Molonglo	Poor	
505031255	Alkimos - Eglinton	Poor	
801071132	Tuggeranong - West	Poor	
801101139	Wright	Poor	
127011592	Badgerys Creek	Poor	
209041437	Wollert	Poor	

In the above example the field names and descriptions are as follows:

SA2_CODE_2016

This is a unique code associated with each TO region, to which a textual description of quality is supplied. In this case it is the unique SA2 code.

SA2_NAME_2016

This is the name of the SA2 which in this example is the TO region to which a textual description of quality is supplied.

QI_INDICATOR

This is the textual description of quality that is supplied for each TO region of the correspondence.

The same textual descriptions used for the individual quality indicators are also applied to the overall quality measure. The textual descriptions are Good, Acceptable and Poor.

The CORRESPONDENCE Worksheet

Table 4: An example of a grid based correspondence file.

SA2_MAINCODE_2011	SA2_NAME_2011	SA2_MAINCODE_2016	SA2_NAME_2016	RATIO	PERCENT
101011001	Goulburn	101051539	Goulburn	1.0	100
101011002	Goulburn Region	101051540	Goulburn Region	1.0	100
101011003	Yass	101061541	Yass	1.0	100
101011004	Yass Region	101061542	Yass Region	1.0	100
101011005	Young	101061543	Young	1.0	100
101011006	Young Region	101061544	Young Region	1.0	100
101021007	Braidwood	101021007	Braidwood	1.0	100
101021008	Karabar	101021008	Karabar	1.0	100

In the above example the field names and descriptions are as follows:

SA2 MAINCODE 2011

This is the unique numerical code representing the FROM region and in this case, the unique 2011 SA2 code.

SA2 NAME 2011

This is a textual label associated with the unique code of the FROM region, in this case it is the textual label for each 2011 SA2.

SA2_MAINCODE_2016

This is the unique numerical code representing the TO region, in this case it is the unique 2016 SA2 code.

SA2 NAME 2016

This is a textual label associated with the unique code of the TO region, in this case it is the textual label for each 2016 SA2.

RATIO

This field describes the Ratio of the FROM region that is being donated to the TO region. The Ratio is a figure between 0 and 1.

PERCENTAGE

This field describes the Percentage of the FROM region that is being donated to the TO region. The Percentage is the Ratio multiplied by 100.

The NULL_TO_OR_FROM_FIELD Worksheet

Table 5: An example of a table identifying NULL areas in either the TO or FROM region in a grid based correspondence.

SA2_MAINCODE_2011	SA2_NAME_2011	SA2_MAINCODE_2016	SA2_NAME_2016	RATIO	PERCENT
		102011030	Calga - Kulnura	1.0	100

In the above example the field names and descriptions are as follows:

SA2_MAINCODE_2011

This is the unique numerical code representing the FROM region, in this case it is the unique 2011 SA2 code. In the example above there is no 2011 SA2 listed which indicates that the 2016 SA2 does not correspond with any 2011 SA2.

SA2_NAME_2011

This is a textual label associated with the unique code of the FROM region, in this case it is the textual label for each 2011 SA2.

SA2_MAINCODE_2016

This is the unique numerical code representing the TO region, in this case it is the unique 2016 SA2 code.

SA2_NAME_2016

This is a textual label associated with the unique code of the TO region, in this case it is the textual label for each 2016 SA2.

RATIO

This field describes the Ratio of the FROM region that is being donated to the TO region. The Ratio is a figure between 0 and 1.

PERCENTAGE

This field describes the Percentage of the FROM region that is being donated to the TO region. The Percentage is the Ratio multiplied by 100.

The BELOW MINIMUM OUTPUT SIZE Worksheet

Table 6: An example of a table identifying ratios and percents of a TO region that is below minimum output size.

SA2_MAINCODE_2011	SA2_NAME_2011	SA2_MAINCODE_2016	SA2_NAME_2016	RATIO PERCENT
107041144	Balgownie - Fairy Meadow	107041145	Corrimal - Tarrawanna - Bellambi	6.36e-050.0063571
109011172	Albury - East	109011175	Albury Region	5.91e-050.0059077
111021219	Toronto - Awaba	111021220	Wangi Wangi - Rathmines	7.54e-050.0075379

In the above example the field names and descriptions are as follows:

SA2_MAINCODE_2011

This is the unique numerical code representing the FROM region, in this case it is the unique 2011 SA2 code.

SA2 NAME 2011

This is a textual label associated with the unique code of the FROM region, in this case it is the textual label for each 2011 SA2.

SA2 MAINCODE 2016

This is the unique numerical code representing the TO region, in this case it is the unique 2016 SA2 code.

SA2 NAME 2016

This is a textual label associated with the unique code of the TO region, in this case it is the textual label for each 2016 SA2.

RATIO

This field describes the Ratio of the FROM region that is being donated to the TO region. The Ratio is a figure between 0 and 1. In many cases, as can be seen in the example above, the amount that a FROM region is donating to a TO region is very small and is expressed as an exponential value.

PERCENTAGE

This field describes the Percentage of the FROM region that is being donated to the TO region. The Percentage is the Ratio multiplied by 100. In many cases, as can be seen in the example above, the amount that a FROM region is donating to a TO region is very small.

The MISSING_TO_UNITS Worksheet

There may be cases where a TO unit is not represented in a correspondence file. This is due to the TO unit being very small relative to the FROM unit, and as a result a grid point is not associated with the TO unit. In cases where this occurs, an additional worksheet will be included with the affected correspondence file. It will consist of a list of the TO units that are not represented in any of the other Worksheets listed above, and will be in a similar format.

FURTHER INFORMATION

More information on the ASGS and ABS Statistical Geography can be found by visiting the ABS website: https://www.abs.gov.au/geography

Any questions or comments can be emailed to <cli>client.services@abs.gov.au> or contact the National Information and Referral Service (NIRS) on 1300 135 070.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

A Area

AC Aboriginal Council

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT Australian Capital Territory
ADD Australian Drainage Division
AEC Australian Electoral Commission

ASGS Australian Statistical Geography Standard

Aust. Australia
B Borough
C City

CED Commonwealth Electoral Division

LGA Local Government Area

M Municipality
MB Mesh Blocks

NRMR Natural Resource Management Region

NSW New South Wales
NT Northern Territory
OT Other Territories
POA Postal Area
QId Queensland

R Regional Council (Qld)

RC Rural City

RegC Regional Council (SA)

S Shire

S/T State and Territory
SA South Australia
SA1 Statistical Area Level 1
SA2 Statistical Area Level 2
SA3 Statistical Area Level 3

SA4 Statistical Area Level 4 SED State Electoral Division

SSC State Suburbs

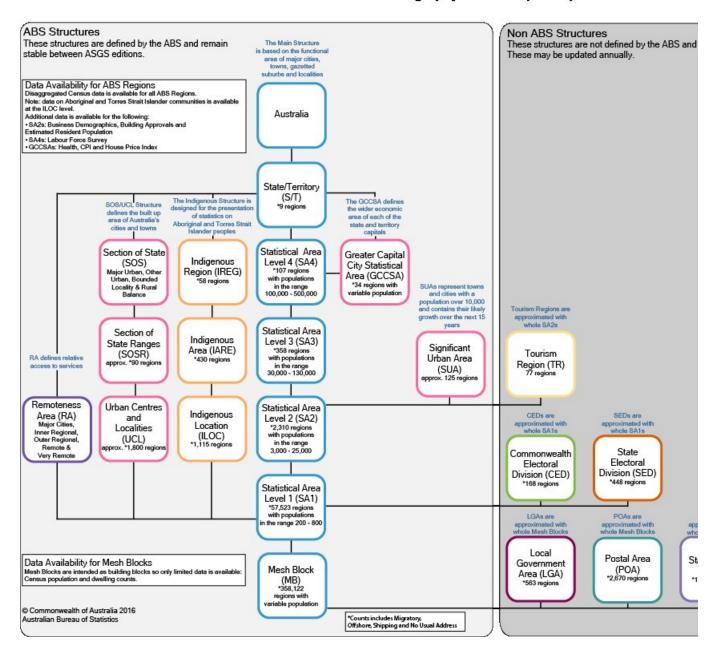
T Town
Tas. Tasmania
TR Tourism Region
Vic. Victoria

WA Western Australia

The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2016 Structure and Summary (Appendix)

APPENDIX 1: THE AUSTRALIAN STATISTICAL GEOGRAPHY STANDARD (ASGS) 2016 STRUCTURE AND SUMMARY

The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2016 Structure and



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